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IS-US031018

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of :
Kaname Nishiue et al. :
Serial No.: 10/790,228 :
Filed: March 2, 2004 :
For: MEASURING APPARATUS :

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:


In accordance with MPEP 609 and 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants bring the attached references to the Examiner's attention and request that they be considered and made of record in this application. Also attached is a completed PTO-1449 form. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three (3) months of the filing date of this application. Thus, *no fee is believed to be due for this Information Disclosure Statement*. However, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1836. A duplicate copy of this Statement is enclosed for that purpose.

Japanese Examined Patent Publication No. 8-18011 discloses an automatic weighing machine for elongated vegetables, having first transfer belts 8, second transfer belts 15 and a weighing device 4. The elongated vegetables are transported up to the end of the first transport belts 8 such that the longitudinal direction of the elongated vegetable is perpendicular to the transporting direction of the first transfer belts 8. The elongated vegetables then go through the guide chute 16 and change its orientation, such that the longitudinal direction of the elongated vegetables is parallel to the transporting direction of the second transfer belts 15.

Japanese Patent No. 3168494 discloses a conveyor-weigher having a weight categorizer 20 and a weighing conveyor 63. When an item W is transported to the end of chains 45 of the weight categorizer 20, the item W is moved onto chains 85 of the weighing conveyor 63. The chains 45 and the chains 85 are rotated at the same speed, and are positioned such that ends of the chains 45 and the chains 85 overlap and are substantially at the same height (Figure 9).

Prompt examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

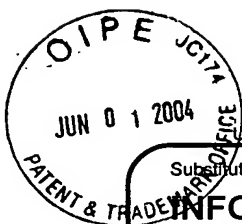
Respectfully submitted,



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Dated: June 1, 2004



Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/790,228
Filing Date	03/02/2004
First Named Inventor	Kaname NISHIUE et al.
Group Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	IS-US031018

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials *	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code ² (if known)			
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials *	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		JP-8-18011-B2	10-11-1991	HIGASHI et al.	Figs. 1-5, column 4, lines 14-23	Yes
		JP-3168494-B2	01-27-1995	KIKUCHI et al.	Figs. 1, 2, 7-11, [0034]	Yes

Examiner
SignatureDate
Considered

* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04.

³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.